

# NATIONAL CONGRESS BULLETIN

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## National Convention

An interesting feature of the 39th Annual Convention to be held in Miami, Florida, April 29 to May 3, will be a panel discussion on "The Home—The Wellspring of the Cultural Arts," on Thursday evening, May 2. The discussion will be led by Mrs. B. F. Langworthy, National President, and the following national chairmen will participate:

J. W. Faust, Recreation Chairman.  
Mrs. Robbins Gilman, Motion Pictures Chairman.

B. H. Darrow, Radio Chairman.  
Mayme Irons, Music Chairman.

Following the panel, the operetta, "Hansel and Gretel," will be presented by the National Music League.

Approximately 1,000 delegates from every state in the Union, representing a membership of more than 1,580,000 persons in 21,000 local parent-teacher associations, units of the National Congress, are expected to attend the Convention.

Railroad rates of one and one-third fare for the round trip to Miami may be obtained by Congress members upon presentation of Identification Certificates which are being distributed by the state presidents. Special rates for rooms and meals are also being offered by the Miami Biltmore Hotel, the Convention Headquarters.

Copies of the Preliminary Program are available from the National Office upon request.

A *Convention News* sheet will be published each day during the National Convention. Congress members may order the set of 5 issues



Mrs. Hugh Bradford, Sacramento, California, Chairman of the Convention Management Committee for the National Convention in Miami, April 29 to May 3.

which will be mailed on the closing day of the Convention, price 10 cents.

For Congress members who are unable to attend the National Convention, a limited number of the Delegate's Notebooks, containing the official Convention program, mimeographed outlines of conferences, complete report of the National President, the five issues of the daily *Convention News*, and miscellaneous Convention material, will be available at the close of the Convention. To secure a copy, the registration fee of \$1 must be paid to the National Office before April 15.

## Summer Round-Up Begins

The 11th annual Summer Round-Up of the Children, major child health project of the National Congress of Parents and Teachers, will soon be in full swing. Although May 1, National Child Health Day, is the official opening date for the nationwide campaign, parent-teacher associations already are busy with the preliminary work of securing the names of preschool children and preparing for the campaign. The object of the Summer Round-Up is to send to the entering grade of school a class of children as free as possible from remediable physical defects.

Local Congress units are urged to register with the state chairman of the Summer Round-Up to secure the free guidance material provided for carrying on the Summer Round-Up. A certificate is awarded to each unit carrying out the campaign according to national requirements. Registration for units competing for the award closes May 15. The campaign closes November 1.

Dr. W. W. Bauer, Director, Bureau of Health and Public Instruction, American Medical Association, discussed the Round-Up in his recent radio address on the parent education series.

"The Summer Round-Up of the Children should be regarded as one step in the general progress of the growing child toward better health," Dr. Bauer declared. "The first step is taken before birth and resolves itself into prenatal care of the mother; the second step is taken during infancy; the third step is taken during preschool years and the fourth when the child enters school; there are, of course, subsequent steps later in life. The Sum-

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39TH ANNUAL CONVENTION—NATIONAL CONGRESS OF PARENTS AND TEACHERS

Miami Biltmore Hotel, Miami, Florida—April 29-May 3, 1935

Theme: *The Home—The Index to National Life*



## Announcements

The following new material is available from the National Office:

A new edition of the leaflets, *Motion Picture Appreciation*, by Dr. Edgar Dale; and *Motion Pictures—A New Approach*, by Catheryne Cooke Gilman. Free to Congress units through the state branch; additional copies are available from the National Office, price 5 cents each.

The following new or revised promotional material is available upon request:

*Suggested Study Course on Our Public Schools.*

Eight-Page Descriptive Folder on *Our Public Schools.*

*A General Information Folder—For Educational or Civic Meetings.*

*The Goals for P.T.A.'s* adopted by the National Board of Managers at Niagara Falls, in plateprint form. Price 50 cents per 100 copies.

Quantities of 50 to 100 will be sent for distribution at district and council meetings if sufficient time is given for shipment and arrangements.

Copies of the 1935 Youth Week Advance Herald, a preliminary illustrated folder designed to stimulate interest in Youth Week, April 27 to May 4, may be secured by writing to the National Youth Week Committee, 35 E. Wacker Drive, Chicago, Illinois. A manual containing suggestions for each day's program during Youth Week may also be secured from the Youth Committee.

Mrs. J. K. Pettengill, First Vice-president, has recently accepted a position on the faculty of the School of Education of Fort Wayne University, Detroit.

The Tenth Annual Meeting of the American Association for Adult Education will be held in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, May 20, 21, and 22.

The first of the month is the deadline for copy intended for publication in the next issue of the BULLETIN.

An interesting editorial entitled "Education and the Federal Government," by Willard E. Givens, Secretary of the National Education Association, will appear in the April issue of the *National Parent-Teacher Magazine*.

All orders for pay material from the National Office should be accompanied by payment—cash, check, money order, or stamps. Ample time should be allowed for delivery of the material before the date it is desired. Mimeographed and printed materials are shipped by fourth class mail and this requires considerably longer than first class mail.

National Congress banners of blue felt, bearing the National emblem in gold felt, are now available from the National Office, price \$1.50.

## Spring State Conventions

The following information concerning spring state conventions has been received in the National Office:

**Alabama**—April 22-24, Montgomery.

Theme—"The Home's Responsibility for the Fourfold Development of the Child."

**Arizona**—District meetings will be held April 10-23.

**California**—May 27-31, San Diego.

Theme—"Enriching Character through Education." Mrs. B. F. Langworthy, National Representative.

**Connecticut**—April 11-13, Stamford.

Mrs. J. K. Pettengill, National Representative.

**District of Columbia**—April 16.

**Florida**—April 29-May 3, Miami.

**Georgia**—April 22-24, Rome.

Mrs. M. P. Summers, National Representative.

**Idaho**—May 8-10, Boise.

Theme—"Better Homes, Better Lives, A Better World." Mrs. Hugh Bradford, National Representative.

**Illinois**—April 10-12, Peoria.

Theme—"New Horizons." Mrs. B. F. Langworthy, National Representative.

**Kentucky**—April 16-18, Owensboro.

Mrs. Hamilton Shaffer, National Representative.

**Louisiana**—April 15-17, Alexandria.

Mrs. M. P. Summers, National Representative.

**Montana**—April 15-17, Billings.

**New Hampshire**—May 10, Manchester.

Mrs. Simon S. Lapham, National Representative.

**North Carolina**—April 16-18, Asheville.

Theme—"Today's Children in Tomorrow's World." Mrs. Raymond Binford, National Representative.

**Rhode Island**—April 24-25.

**South Carolina**—April 23-24, Greenville.

Mrs. J. K. Pettengill, National Representative.

**Utah**—April 5, Salt Lake City.

Theme—"Home, An Index to National Life." Mrs. A. B. Shuttleworth, National Representative.

**Washington**—May 13-15, Spokane.

Mrs. B. F. Langworthy, National Representative.

**Wisconsin**—May 14-16, Kenosha.

Mrs. J. K. Pettengill, National Representative.

## Field Assignments

**Mrs. Charles E. Roe**

March 3-9—Oregon.

March 11-April 5—Washington.

April 10-23—Arizona.

**Miss Frances S. Hays**

March 5-15—Louisiana.

March 25-April 5—Texas.

April 10-19—South Dakota.

April 23-24—South Carolina.

**Miss Alice Sowers**

March 4-11—Arizona.

March 13-18—New Mexico.

March 20-22—Kansas.

March 24-April 2—Nebraska.

April 4-10—Colorado.

## Annual Reports

The first robin and the first crocus usher in not only the spring, but the season of reports. Brains which have been busy during February with making out income tax returns, turn in March and April to making out P.T.A. reports.

It is heartening to note that each year more and more workers report on their activities. Each year a more significant body of information becomes available about what parent-teacher associations are doing. Many local units, however, do not yet realize the importance of making an adequate report to their state branch, in order that their state may adequately be represented in the nationwide summary compiled by the National Congress each year.

State chairmen have been requested to send in their annual reports before April 15. State chairmen who have no national chairman or who are in doubt as to where to direct their annual reports should send them to the National Office.

## Summer Round-Up Begins

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mer Round-Up of the Children is not or ought not to be a lone and independent project. It should be tied up cooperatively with all other community health movements, particularly those relating to childhood."

Dr. Bauer strongly recommended that Summer Round-Up physical examinations be held in the office of the family physician. "It seems to me that clinics have now served their purpose and outlived their usefulness," stated Dr. Bauer. "The advantages of an examination in the office of the family physician are manifold. The opportunity to talk with the mother about hygienic practices which may be more important than manifest physical defects also contributes to the value of the examination in the office of the family physician."

"For the most part, it will from now on be the established policy of the National Congress of Parents and Teachers to discourage the assembled group examination in favor of examinations in the office of the practicing physician."

Mrs. J. K. Pettengill, First Vice-president, led a panel discussion on "Unified Purposes of Home and School" at the convention of the Progressive Education Association in Washington, D. C., February 21 to 23.



## National President Suggests Prayer For Devotionals

One of the pressing questions in the conduct of parent-teacher meetings, has always been how to maintain a nonsectarian atmosphere.

Ever since our founding it has been the custom in many localities, to open our meetings with some sort of devotionals which have often taken the form of evangelical prayers and hymns.

I am sure that we mean to be non-sectarian; the article on policies in our National and state bylaws provide that we must be, but in reality this evangelical service is against the convictions of certain sects which are widely represented in our membership.

In making some study of this matter, I am assured by prominent ministers of various denominations, that the universal prayer of the ages is what is called in Evangelical Churches, The Lord's Prayer. Religious groups that use the Old Testament for their word of worship, find this in accordance with their usage as having the counterpart of each phrase in their own prayer book.

We all worship one God. Can we not unite on this form of prayer to that God, thus uniting and not separating our hearts as we meet together?

Mary L. Langworthy,  
National President.

## Kindergartens and Nursery Schools

A plea for educational opportunities for children of preschool age is voiced in a letter from Charl Williams, School Education Chairman, to state chairmen. "These children represent a group that cannot voice their own needs," writes Miss Williams. "Kindergartens and nursery schools will be available only if the older citizens demand and provide them. Since values of early childhood education arise both out of the intrinsic needs of children and out of the demands of the social order, the establishment and support of schools for younger children is not only an unselfish act for the good of children but one beneficial to the community as well. . . .

"Plans must be made *now* and *work* begun in order that citizens may have an intelligent interest in continuing and extending such educational guidance for young children."

Pamphlets on standards for kindergartens and nursery schools may be secured from:

Dr. Grace Langdon, Federal Emergency Nursery Schools, 1734 New York Avenue, Washington, D. C.

Abigail Eliot, Secretary, National Association for Nursery Education, 147 Ruggles Street, Boston, Mass.

Association for Childhood Education, 1201 16th Street N. W., Washington, D. C.

## New Pamphlets

"*The Junior Safety Council, a Handbook for Schools*," recently published by the Education Division of the National Safety Council, contains a wealth of information for a safety program in the schools. Some of the subjects treated are how to organize junior safety committees, programs, school boy patrols, the safety court, and special activities for junior safety councils. Order from the Education Division, National Safety Council, One Park Avenue, New York City, price 35 cents.

"*Vocational Agriculture in Relation to Economic and Social Adjustments*," a report of a conference held last spring under the auspices of the Office of Education on the relation of vocational agricultural education to emergency and longtime programs affecting agriculture, has recently been published. Available from the Superintendent of Documents, Washington, D. C., price 10 cents.

"*Parent Education in the Emergency Nursery School*," a joint bulletin prepared recently by Emergency Nursery School Education and Emergency Parent Education, may be secured from the Education Division of Federal Emergency Relief Administration, 1734 New York Avenue, Washington, D. C., price 10 cents (free to nursery school groups).

## Parent Education Radio Program

N.B.C. Red Network

Thursdays, 5:00-5:30 p. m., E.S.T.  
SPONSORED BY THE NATIONAL  
CONGRESS OF PARENTS AND  
TEACHERS AND THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

### May 2

*Revitalizing Education*—Harry Overstreet, Head of Department of Philosophy and Psychology, College of the City of New York.

### May 9

*The Changing Purpose of Education*—Franklin Bobbitt, Professor of Education, University of Chicago.

### May 16

*Relating the Secondary Curriculum to Life*—Leonard V. Koos, Professor of Secondary Education, University of Chicago.

### May 23

*Provisions for Individual Differences*—E. O. Melby, Dean, School of Education, Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois.

### May 30

*Recent Changes in College Education*—George A. Works, Dean of Students and University Examiners, University of Chicago.

The listener's pamphlet for the third quarter of the parent education radio program is now ready. It may be secured from the National Office for five cents a copy. Mimeographed copies of speeches may also be secured at five cents a copy.

A National Conference of the Lay Friends of Education was held during the Department of Superintendence convention in Atlantic City on February 27. The theme was "The Responsibilities of the Citizen for Safeguarding and Improving Public Education." The National Congress was represented on the sponsoring committee by its President, who also served as a discussion leader.

A report of the panel discussion on "What About Marks and Promotions?" held under the auspices of the National Congress of Parents and Teachers in connection with the convention of the Department of Superintendence in Atlantic City is available from the National Office, price 5 cents.

"*Economies Through the Elimination of Very Small Schools*," (Bulletin 1934, No. 3). For sale by the Superintendent of Documents, Washington, D. C., price 10 cents.



## News from State Branches

### Alabama

Alabama Congress is sponsoring a legislative program featuring a nine-month school term.

Funds for the longer term would be secured through economies accomplished by the reorganization of county government.

Under the reorganization plan, the fee system would be abolished, useless offices eliminated, uniform accounting systems with appropriate budgets installed, and a larger portion of tax revenue used for education, health, and home demonstration work.

### Connecticut

Equalized educational opportunities, a permanent teachers' pension fund, regional highschools and an adequate system of trade schools will be urged at the next session of the General Assembly by the Hartford County Council of Parent-Teacher Associations.

### District of Columbia

Some outstanding achievements of the District of Columbia Congress are listed in the February news letter to local presidents, among which are the following:

Organization of associations; survey in 1920 of physical conditions of every school in the District of Columbia, resulting in establishment of health school, installation of electric lights in elementary schools, sanitary toilets and drinking fountains, improved playground facilities; establishing school lunches; installing scales and weighing and measuring children; introducing Schick Test; opening first dental clinic; student aid; establishing "Receiving Home" for children; first "Health Clinic"; establishing rest rooms for children at Juvenile Court; training classes for study group leaders; establishing parent-teacher course in George Washington University; instrumental in passage of Teachers' Salary Bill.

### Hawaii

Membership in Hawaii Congress of Parents and Teachers on December 15, 1934, showed a gain of 23 percent over December 15, 1933.

That fathers in the territory feel that they have as definite a place in P.T.A. work as the mothers is shown by the fact that of the 50 associations in the territory, 35 have men presidents.

### Idaho

The legislative program of the Idaho Congress includes support of a permissive regional Library Bill, an adequate state health board, and an equalization tax for school districts. Three city councils have sent copies of their resolutions concerning part or all of these measures, to their Legislators.

### Illinois

The Illinois Congress and the Household Science Institute are sponsoring a Midwest Conference on Homemaking, to be held at the Sherman Hotel, Chicago, March 19, 20, and 21. Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, and Wisconsin state Congresses are among the 20 cooperating groups. Mrs. Arthur R. Williams, Illinois Congress President, is Chairman of the Conference.

### Kentucky

The Louisville Council of Parents and Teachers, numbering 8,000 members, is now the largest organization in Louisville. This represents an increase of 3,000 members since September.

### Massachusetts

The Myrtle Parent-Teacher Association, said to be the oldest parent-teacher association in the country celebrated its 40th anniversary last October. The entertainment program was featured by a play in which the first meeting of the association in October, 1894, was enacted by present members of the organization. The founder of the association, Miss Julia F. Callahan, was the guest of honor.

### Nebraska

It has been necessary for Nebraska Congress to order 6,000 additional membership cards since the state convention, 1,500 of which were mailed out in one week.

### Oregon

The membership chairman of the Oregon Congress of Parents and Teachers announces that the state now has a gain over last year's large membership. The present enrollment is 20,452, the largest membership in Oregon's parent-teacher history. Dues are reported to be coming in rapidly, showing additional gains almost every day.

### South Dakota

In spite of drouth and depression, P.T.A. choruses have increased in number. The total at the present time is 156, of which 93 are mother choruses, 33 are father choruses, and 30 are mixed choruses or quartets. All are being recognized as community assets and are being called upon to give entertainment for their own groups and to furnish music on community programs, in concerts, and for other occasions.

### Texas

A series of fifteen district conferences will be held from March 15 to April 20. Various meetings will convene in fifteen different parts of the state.

## State Bulletin Conference

Is your state bulletin as effective and interesting as it might be? Can you suggest improvements? The subject of publishing a state bulletin will be carefully considered at the National Convention in Miami. The State Presidents Conference on Saturday, April 27, will go into the practical side of financing, printing, and distribution, and the Thursday publicity conference will consider methods of making the bulletin more attractive, interesting, and effective. Suggestions of state board members will be welcomed.

## National Bylaws Revisions

Proposed amendments to the National Bylaws to be acted upon at the National Convention in Miami have been submitted to National Board members. One of the amendments provides that, beginning in 1937, national officers be elected in groups of three or four, each year. At present the Bylaws require that the entire group of ten officers be elected at one time, for a three-year term, with no re-election.

## Correction

Please make the following correction on your Preliminary Program of the National Convention: Mrs. W. J. Hockett, President, will preside at the State Presidents Club Luncheon, Sunday, April 28.

Mrs. Charles F. Pye is President of the State Presidents Conference, which meets on Saturday, April 27.

## Wanted

News of local P.T.A. activities, for publication in the department "The P.T.A. At Work," in the *National Parent-Teacher Magazine*.

The biennial convention of the International Federation of Home and School will be held August 10 to 17, 1935, at Oxford, England.

Mrs. Cora Wilson Stewart, former Director of the National Illiteracy Crusade, is now available as a special representative of the Federal Housing Administration to speak before women's organizations on behalf of the Better Housing Program.

Ruth Nichols, famous aviatrix, is the author of an article on "Hobbies for Girls," in the March issue of the *National Parent-Teacher Magazine*.